

Message Text

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51

ORIGIN SCCT-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 PRS-01 SS-20 NSC-07 PA-04 USIE-00

INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 CCO-00 A-01

OPR-02 SY-04 USSS-00 MED-03 RSC-01 /072 R

DRAFTED BY S/CCT:LHOFFACKER

APPROVED BY ARA:HWSHLAUDEMAN

S/S-O: WNEWLIN

S/PRS:JFKING (DRAFT)

----- 066025

O 131657Z APR 74 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 075865

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PINS, CPRS, APER, AR

SUBJECT: LAUN KIDNAPPING

1. WE REJOICE IN LAUN'S RETURN AND ARE HOPEFUL THAT INTENSIVE MEDICAL TREATMENT NOW BEING ADMINISTERED WILL RESTORE HIM TO GOOD HEALTH. IN YOUR EXPRESSIONS OF APPRECIATION TO MEDICAL AUTHORITIES, POLICE AND OTHERS WHO COOPERATED IN THIS REGARD, PLEASE ADD THOSE OF USG.

2. WE EXPECT PRESS INTEREST TO DIMINISH. ALTHOUGH THERE IS TEMPTATION TO DEPLORE PUBLICLY THIS BARBARIC ACTION AGAINST ONE OF OUR OFFICIALS, WE BELIEVE THAT IT BEST TO BE CIRCUMSPECT. WE MUST BEAR IN MIND POSSIBILITY THAT SUCH PUBLIC DENUNCIATION AT THIS TIME COULD COMPLICATE EFFORTS TO SECURE RELEASE OF SAMUELSON (EXCON) AND MIGHT PROVOKE ERP INTO ADDITIONAL INITIATIVES.

3. SHOULD THERE BE FURTHER INQUIRIES FROM PRESS, SUGGEST FOLLOWING LINE: (A) EMBASSY AND DEPARTMENT GIVE OUT FACTUAL INFORMATION RELATING TO LAUN AND COMMEND MEDICAL

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AND ARGENTINE OFFICIALS FOR FULL COOPERATION AND COMPETENCE.

(B) REFRAIN FROM INTERPRETATION OF US POLICY IN SUCH
KIDNAPPINGS. KISSINGER

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NNN

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TAGS: PINS, CPRS, APER, AMED, PFOR, AR, US, ESSO, (LAUN, ALFRED A), (SAMUELSON, VICTOR)
To: BUENOS AIRES
Type: TE
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